

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T COUNTRY USSR/Soviet Bloc REPORT SUBJECT 1. December 19525X1 Organization and Functions of DATE DISTR. CEMA (Council of Economic Mutual NO. OF PAGES Assistance) DATE OF INFO. REQUIREMENT NO. RD 25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED This is UNEVALUATED Information DATE ACQUIRED SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Organization

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1. A Council of Ministers meets twice a year to discuss and approve the program of work and the budget. Member countries are Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, and the USSR, which are founder members, and Albania and East Germany, which joined later. China is not a member. Work is carried on by a small permanent secretariat under Secretary-General Pavlov in Moscow, but this staff is outnumbered by the permanent delegations from member countries. The delegations which are from technical ministries and not from the foreign ministries, form adhoc working parties to consider specific problems, but there are no standing committees. The results of the working parties are transmitted as recommendations to governments, which may then implement them on the basis of bilateral agreements with the other governments concerned; in themselves the recomendations have no force. Agreements are not multilaterally negotiated within the council framework (sic).

Functions

2. The functions of the council are essentially technical, the study of planning methods, accounting techniques, the standardization of export documents between members, foreign exchange clearing methods, and the provision of names of experts in special subject or at least of the appropriate office to which application should be made. For example, if the Gzechoslovak Government wants an expert in some branch of agriculture, the council secretariat will put the permanent representative in touch with the relevant Soviet department. Trade agreements are not negotiated through the council, nor are production plans co-ordinated. Its work has many similarities to that of the Technical Assistance Board or the European Productivity Agency.

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	Comments:	25X1			
1.	According to available information, China is a member of CEMA although the fact has not been publicly announced.				
2.	 Previous information invariably indicated a vast secretariat and very small permanent delegation. 				
3.	This statement is opposed to the CEMA Charter, Article 2, Clause B.				
4.	. The statement that production plans are not coordinated does not agree with the CEMA Charter.				
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